

# NEWS RELEASE



United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
**VIRGINIA FIELD OFFICE**

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## **VIRGINIA'S SOYBEAN YIELD DOWN FROM THE PREVIOUS FORECAST**

Virginia's November forecast for soybean yield is estimated at 29 bushels per acre, down 1 bushel from the previous forecast. Virginia soybean producers are expected to harvest 520,000 acres, down 2 percent from last year. Production is forecast at 15.1 million bushels, down 27 percent from last year.

The state's peanut yield is forecast at 2,900 pounds per acre. This was up 100 pounds from the previous forecast. Production is estimated at 63.8 million pounds, down 61 percent from last year. The large drop is attributed to a 10,000 acre drop in harvested acres. Producers are expected to harvest 22,000 acres in 2005.

Cotton yields are forecast at 730 pounds per acre, up 26 pounds from last month but down 226 pounds from last year. Production is expected to total 140,000 bales. Cotton growers in the Commonwealth expect to harvest 92,000 acres in 2005.

Virginia's corn producers averaged 124 bushels per acre, unchanged from the October forecast but down 21 bushels from last year. Corn for grain production is expected to total 44.6 million bushels from 360,000 acres.

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Cooperating with Virginia Department of Agriculture  
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**Corn Production Up 2 Percent from October**  
**Soybean Production Up 3 Percent from October**  
**Cotton Production Up 2 Percent from October**

**All U.S. corn** production is forecast at 11.0 billion bushels, up 2 percent from last month but 7 percent below 2004. Based on conditions as of November 1, yields are expected to average 148.4 bushels per acre, up 2.3 bushels from October but 12.0 bushels below last year. If realized, both production and yield would be the second largest on record, behind last year. Of the major producing States, forecast yields are higher than last month in Iowa, Indiana, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin as producers realized larger than expected yields and late planted fields matured under favorable fall conditions. Yield prospects are still below last year in all major corn States, except Minnesota and Wisconsin where producers are experiencing record high yields.

**All U.S. soybean** production is forecast at 3.04 billion bushels, up 3 percent from October but 3 percent below 2004. If realized, this would be the second largest U.S. soybean crop on record, only behind last year's crop. Based on November 1 conditions, yields are expected to average a record high 42.7 bushels per acre, up 1.1 bushels from October and 0.5 bushel above last year. Producers in the Corn Belt, the southern Delta, and most of the Southeast are realizing higher yields than expected last month, with record high yields forecast in Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, and Louisiana. Area for harvest in the U.S. is forecast at 71.3 million acres, unchanged from last month but down 4 percent from 2004.

**All U.S. cotton** production is forecast at 23.2 million 480-pound bales, up 2 percent from the October forecast but slightly below last year's record high production. Yield is expected to average 813 pounds per acre, up 16 pounds from last month but down 42 pounds from 2004. If realized, both production and yield would be the second largest on record, behind last year. The November area expected for harvest remains unchanged from last month at 13.7 million acres but is up 5 percent from 2004

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